

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BONN 03418 241514Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----018231 241535Z /50

O P 241501Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6165
USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

S E C R E T BONN 03418

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM MPOL NATO GW US
SUBJECT: FRG STATEMENT ON THE NEUTRON WEAPON

REFS: (A) BONN 3388; (B) STATE 47652

1. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY IN REF (B), WE AND HANSEN WERE WORKING FROM THE SAME GERMAN LANGUAGE TEXT OF THE BOELLING STATEMENT. WE NEGLECTED TO STATE IN REF (A) THAT THE TEXT GIVEN THERE WAS OUR INFORMAL TRANSLATION.

2. THE GERMAN TEXT OF THE SENTENCE IN QUESTION FOLLOWS:

"DIE BUNDESREGIERUNG WIRD SICH DAFUER EINSETZEN, DASS ALLE SICH BIETENDEN MOEGlichkeiten ZU ANGEMESSENEN FORTSCHRITTEN BEI RUESTUNGSKONTROLL-VERHANDLUNGEN GENUTZT WERDEN, AUCH IM HINBLICK AUF DIE RUESTUNGSENTWICKLUNGEN AUF OESTLICHER SEITE, EHE ES TATSAECHLICH ZUR STATIONIERUNG VON NEUTRONENWAFFEN IN EUROPA KOMMT."

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3. THE BEST LITERAL TRANSLATION OF THE FINAL PHRASE WOULD PROBABLY BE: "... BEFORE IT COMES TO THE ACTUAL DEPLOYMENT OF NEUTRON WEAPONS IN EUROPE." AS A FLOWING TRANSLATION, WE AGREE THAT HANSEN'S MORE PRECISELY GIVES THE INTENDED MEANING, ALTHOUGH WE STILL FIND A SLIGHT, SKILLFUL AMBIGUITY. FOR THOSE IN THE FRG WHO ARGUE THAT A DECISION ON DEPLOYMENT NEED NOT BE FACED

UNTIL ARMS CONTROL NEGOTIATIONS HAVE TAKEN PLACE, THE
GOVERNMENT STATEMENT WILL NOT BE ALARMING; AT THE SAME
TIME REACHING AN IMMEDIATE DECISION ON DEPLOYMENT IS
NOT RULED OUT.

4. DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH TO SEND FRG EMBASSY'S
TRANSLATION TO ADDRESSEES OF REF (A), NOTING THAT WE
ACCEPT FRG TRANSLATION OF PARA FIVE.
MEEHAN

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRODUCTION, NUCLEAR WEAPONS
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Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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ISecure: 1
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